

February 20, 1998

Richard A. Denton
Water Resources Manager
Contra Costa Water District
P. O. Box H2O
Concord, CA 94524

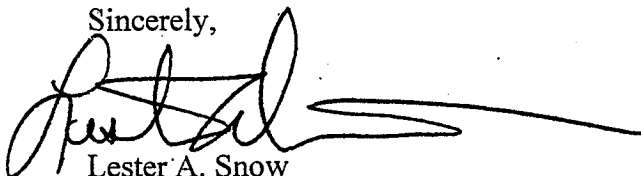
Dear Mr. Denton:

Thank you for your letter dated December 19, 1997, requesting that CALFED identify the Contra Costa Water District (CCWD) as an in-Delta water user and that we continue to evaluate CCWD water supply impacts as separate and distinct from others. To the extent possible, we seek to assure that reports published by the CALFED Bay-Delta Program are consistent with current documents published by federal and state agencies.

Studies conducted by CALFED staff assume that the majority of the water used by Contra Costa Water District is taken under the August 2, 1938, U.S. Bureau of Reclamation's water rights contracts. The State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) identifies these contracts as water exporter. On December 2, 1997, the SWRCB released the Draft Environmental Impact Report associated with implementing the requirements of the 1995 Water Quality Control Plan for the Bay-Delta. This document identifies CCWD's diversions under its USBR contracts as exports for the purpose of determining the project's obligations under flow alternatives 3 and 4.

If we have misinterpreted the available information we would be pleased to revise our documentation and remain open to further discussion of this issue. If you have any questions, please contact Mark Cowin of my staff at (916) 653-2986.

Sincerely,



Lester A. Snow
Executive Director

CALFED Agencies

California
The Resources Agency
Department of Fish and Game
Department of Water Resources
California Environmental Protection Agency
State Water Resources Control Board

Federal
Environmental Protection Agency
Department of the Interior
Fish and Wildlife Service
Bureau of Reclamation
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

Department of Agriculture
Natural Resources Conservation Service
Department of Commerce
National Marine Fisheries Service